

Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 11/8/12

Present: Co-Chair Juli Brazile, Co-Chair Gordon Jamieson, Brackett School Composting Representative Erica Riddington, Sue Stamps, Ellen Callaway, Eric Helmuth, Secretary Pete Howard

MONTHLY TONNAGE TRACKING: Gordon provided a table & chart based on DPW data updating the solid waste history (Ref 1). The tonnage has decreased an average of 219 T each of the 1st 3 months in FY13 since JRM took over curbside collection. He estimated that even if there are no more decreases, the Town will save \$197k this fiscal year..

MANDATORY BUSINESS RECYCLING: Sue says that according to DEP, many towns have this requirement. Arlington businesses may recycle if they use the PAYT bags. It is unclear how the Town can require businesses to recycle. Sue will look into this. Gordon will ask the DoH if they require approved haulers to offer recycling.

ARLINGTON RECYCLES WEEK: Gordon got the BoS to sign the proclamation at their meeting on Monday.

COMMUNITY COLLECTION DAY (11/17/12):

Juli wants 4 volunteers for both the 9-11 shift & the 11-1 shift. She needs one more.

Juli to warn the soccer club that they can not park at the Town Yard on CCD in an effort to avoid disgruntled parents.

Gordon to review publicity arrangements w/ Charlotte.

Gordon to arrange police presence with Chief Ryan.

SCHOOL COMPOSTING: Erica reported that they have reduced the waste stream from the Brackett cafeteria from 75 to 15 lb/day on average. They may not be able to keep the composters going all winter. She would like to have a large holding bin for leaves and partly done compost. She will discuss w/ DPW at CCD. The committee would like to expand this program to all schools but feels it wise to wait until Brackett has completed a full year.

COLLECTION BINS: Gordon would like to get the bin map updated and to be sure the tonnage is subtracted from our solid waste tonnage. He will discuss w/ Charlotte.

RECYCLING PROMOTION ARTICLES: Gordon would like the paper paper paper article to be updated and republished in the Advocate & The Patch. He suggested a similar article, water water water, that would discuss ways to lighten household solid waste by keeping it dry.

2010-2020 SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN: Pete provided the body of a proposed letter to the Governor requesting him to release the draft version of this plan. Based on a supportive discussion, he will draft a letter for the BoS to sign, include feedback from the ARC, get input from Toxic Action Center, and discuss w/ the Town Manager.

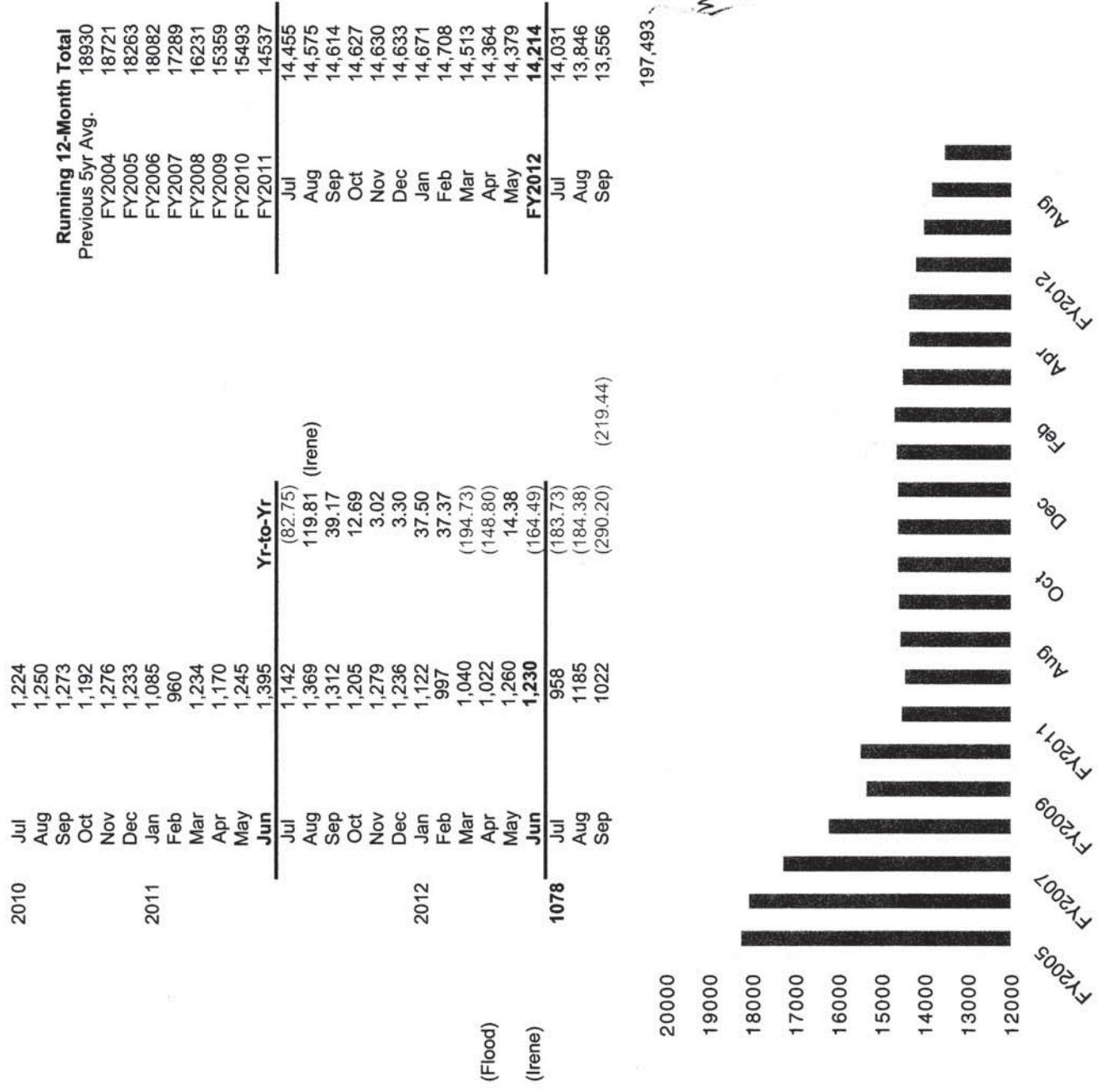
JUICE BOXES: In general food boxes like milk & juice are recyclable. If the box is foil lined, it can not be recycled.

FUTURE MEETINGS - First Thursday of each month at 7:30 in the Town Hall Annex unless otherwise announced.

Ref 1 Solid Waste Tracking Report

Ref 2 Solid Waste Master Plan Letter

Ref 1



As you know, the DEP released a draft 2010-2020 Solid Waste Master Plan in July 2010. We feel it should be released, Massachusetts should have a clear policy in this important area. We believe this document provides that policy. It sets a long range goal of zero waste and a 2020 goal of 30% reduction in solid waste. The plan lists many specific efforts that DEP could take to reach these goals. The plan also provides a convenient source for related history and statistics. All of this helps those of us working on solid waste problems at the municipal level to do a better job.

We urge you to promptly release this plan and to energetically support DEP's efforts to reach its goals.